

An Act to amend the Civil Service Superannuation Act, 1924.

An Act for granting to His Majesty certain sums of money for the public service of the financial years ending respectively the 31st March, 1925, and the 31st March, 1926.

#### SPEECH FROM THE THRONE

After which the Right Honourable the Deputy of the Governor General was pleased to close the Fourth Session of the Fourteenth Parliament of the Dominion of Canada with the following speech:

Honourable Members of the Senate:

Members of the House of Commons:

In bringing to a close the Fourth Session of the Fourteenth Parliament of Canada, I desire to express to you my appreciation of the care and attention given the many important measures which have come before you for consideration.

It is gratifying to observe that the trade of our country is expanding as at no previous period of its history. The favourable balance for the fiscal year ended March 31st exceeded 284 millions of dollars. This expansion will without doubt be further stimulated by the inter-Imperial agreement negotiated with our sister Dominion, Australia, to which approval has just been given, and by the legislation enacted for the purpose of establishing most favoured nation trade relations with Finland and the Netherlands, including the populous and wealthy Islands of the Dutch East Indies.

Delegates from the British West Indies are at present conferring with my Government concerning reciprocal development of trade and the improvement of communications throughout British America.

Canadian trade, via Canadian ports, has been greatly developed under the policy of allowing additional preference upon commodities when imported through Canadian ports from countries enjoying the British Preference. Practically the entire importations of British goods enjoying a preference now enter Canada through Canadian ports.

To provide more adequate facilities for our increasing ocean-borne traffic, provision has been made for improving the equipment of our national harbours.

A Special Committee of the House of Commons, appointed early in the session to consider a proposal to bring about the lowering of North Atlantic freight rates, has recently reported, confirming the existence of a combine and the necessity for the establishment of an effective control over Ocean Rates. This important subject will continue to engage the attention of my advisers.

The intricate problem of the regulation of railway freight rates throughout Canada has been dealt with in a manner which it is believed will enable the Board of Railway Commissioners to present a rate structure, based upon an equalization of rates as between provinces and localities, that will be fair and just to all parts of Canada, and which should serve further to stimulate both domestic and foreign trade.

A consolidation and revision of the Canada Grain Act has been made, which should prove of direct and substantial benefit to the great agricultural industry of the country.

Rigorous enactments have been passed to aid in the prevention of smuggling and the enforcement of our revenue laws. They have been supplemented by important treaties with the United States respecting the suppression of smuggling, and of traffic in narcotics.

Agreements have also been concluded with the United States for the final demarcation of the international boundary line and the regulation of the level of the Lake of the Woods.

Amendments to the Industrial Disputes Investigation Act, the Soldiers' Settlement Act, and the Dominion Elections Act, have been among other important enactments of the session.

Members of the House of Commons:

I thank you for the provision you have made for the public service.

Honourable Members of the Senate:

Members of the House of Commons:

The numerous evidences of increasing prosperity are now happily supplemented by the prospect of a bountiful harvest. For these and other blessings I humbly join with you in thanksgiving to Divine Providence.